

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 00382 162058Z

60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SAJ-01 OMB-01 COME-00

EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 FEA-01 INT-05 FMC-01 DOTE-00 /052 W

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R 161741Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2926

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 0382

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BE, ELAB

SUBJECT: THREATENED STRIKE IN PETROLEUM SECTOR

REF BRUSSELS 232

1. GOVERNMENT CONCILIATION FAILED AGAIN TO REACH AGREEMENT IN PETROLEUM SECTOR JANUARY 15 AND STRIKE SCHEDULED BEGIN JANUARY 20 NOW APPEARS BE ALMOST CERTAIN. EMPLOYERS CONTINUED ADHERE TO FOUR PER CENT GUIDELINE IN JANUARY 15 SESSION. GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET DECIDED IF IT WILL ATTEMPT FURTHER CONCILIATION.

2. SCHEDULED NATIONWIDE STRIKE IN MARITIME SECTOR DID NOT RECEIVE REQUIRED TWO-THIRDS APPROVAL OF WORKERS EVEN THOUGH THEY REJECTED FINAL CONCILIATION PROPOSAL. NEVERTHELESS, SOME WILD-CAT STRIKES WERE REPORTED JANUARY 15 IN ANTWERP MARITIME COMPANIES. NEW NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE SCHEDULED IN EFFORT TO REACH AN AGREEMENT.

3. COMMENT: WHILE NATION-WIDE MARITIME STRIKE NOW APPEARS TO BE UNLIKELY, POSSIBILITY OF PETROLUUM STRIKE SEEMS MORE PROBABLE. BARRING SOME BREAKTHROUGH IN AS YET UNSCHEDULED LAST MINUTE NEGOTIATION NATIONWIDE STRIKE WILL PROBABLY BEGIN JANUARY 20, BUT NOT EXPECTED TO LAST MORE THAN A FEW DAYS. RENNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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